Discussion for Mutual Cooperation in the matter of Star T.V.

1252. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions have been held between the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and representatives of the Star T.V. for mutual cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussion held and the conclusions arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) STAR TV has, *suo moto*, proposed creation of a regional window for suitable programmes of Doordarshan via STAR and the retransmission of certain STAR programmes on Doordarshan domestic network. Government has taken note of this proposal.

Amendment in the Cinematograph Act

1253. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Estimates Committee of Lok Sabha has suggested suitable amendments in the Cinematograph Act to make censorship stricter to curb violence and sex;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to implement the suggestions of the Committee; and

(c) whether re-constitution of the Censor Board and Panels at various Centres has been completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The Estimates Committee in their report presented to the Lok Sabha on 26th February, 1992 have not specifically suggested amendment of Cinematograph Act to make censorship stricter to curb violence and sex. However, the Committee have *inter-alia* recommended:

(i) incorporation of suitable provisions in the Cenematograph Act to make directors, technicians and exhibitors also actors/actresses responsible liable for interpolation of scenes if vulgar depletion disallowed during certification or otherwise violative of Guidelines issued under the Cinematograph Act, and

(ii) amendment of the Act to provide stringent punishment for such interpolations.

In order to curb excessive and unrelated violence and sex in films, Government have recently revised the Guidelines for film certification on 6-12-1991. The existing provision in Section 7(1) of the Act is sufficient to take care of violations regarding interpolations done by anyone including directors, technicians, exhibitors etc.,

(c) Government have reconstituted the Central Board of Film Certification and its advisory panels in September-October, 1991. However, appointment of members in the Board/Panel is a continuous process as vacancies are to be filled up as and when they arise in the case of the Board and the appointments in the Panels are made on the basis of felt requirements.

Freeze on T.V. Advertisement rates

1254. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of freezing the Advertisement rates on Doordarshan for at least two years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this step would affect the growing income of Doordarshan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) A suggestion about the possibility of freezing the advertisement rates of Doordarshan for a period of two years and broadening the base of Doordarshan advertisers as opposed to relying on rate increases, is contained in the Report of the Committee set up to make recommendations for increasing Doordarshan's commercial revenue.

Interviews/Introduction of the Members of the 10th Lok Sabha

1255. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

KUMARI ALIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to telecast interview/introductions of the Members of Tenth Lok Sabha, who have been elected for the first time;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be telecast; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons there for?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) Doordarshan has already telecast interviews with some Members of Parliament who have been elected for the first time to the Tenth Lok Sabha. Telecast of interviews with other such Members of Parliament would depend upon the programme exigencies of Doordarshan.

Fixed time slots for Private Producers

1256. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private producers are likely to have fixed time slots on the four metropolitan channels of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also considering any proposal to telecast Doordarshan Programmes for people across the borders; and

(d) if so, when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The matter is under active consideration.

(c) and (d) Extension of Doordarshan programmes to cover larger areas within India through satellite does have a spill over in neighbouring countries where such programmes can be received on TV with an appropriate dish antenna.

..Access of U.S. Film Industry to the Country

1257. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BRODCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have entered into an agreement with the U.S. Film Industry for market access for U.S. films into this country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Exhibition of Uncertified Video Films

1258. DR SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have recently been reports to the effect that uncertified video films are being shown in many States/Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps the State/Union Territory Governments have taken during the last